Recommendations of National Commission for Cattle

*77. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the salient features of the recommendations made by National Commission for Cattle;

(b) whether Government have examined those recommendations;

(c) if so, what is the future course of action thereon; and

(d) if not, by when the recommendations will be examined and follow up action taken?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The salient features of the recommendations made by the National Commission on Cattle are as under:—

(1) The prohibition for slaughter of cow and its progeny should be included in the Fundamental Rights to make it enforceable by the Court of Law.

(2) The Constitution should be amended to empower Parliament to enact a Central Law for prohibition of slaughter of cow and its progeny and its transport from one State to other. This may be done by shifting the subject to Central list or atleast to the Concurrent List in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

(3) Any violation of this law should be made non-bailable and cognizable offence and provide for trial by a Session Court. The minimum punishment for violation should be three years rigorous imprisonment, which may extend to ten years with fine. The onus of proof should be on the accused to prove his innocence.

(4) The Central Government should constitute a permanent National Cattle Development Commission or Rashtriya Goseva Ayog for the country as a whole to provide it adequate funds for its functioning.

(5) A separate Ministry for Cattle Preservation and Development should be formed independent of the Department of Animal Husbandry.

(6) Animal Husbandry Department should be re-organized and the subject allotted to it should be for preservation and development of animals and not for animal food by way of meat etc.

(7) No financial assistance should be given by the Animal Husbandry or Agriculture Department for the construction or maintenance etc. of slaughter houses in the country.

(8) There should be complete ban on the export of beef and veal.

(9) The Central Government should ensure constitution and functioning of Goseva Ayogs in each State and also provide them adequate funds for their functioning. These Ayogs should be monitored by the Rashtriya Goseva Ayog at the Centre.

(10) Central Cattle Protection - Rapid Task Police Force with regional offices in each States should be created. It should have a special force deputed on the Kerala and Bangladesh Border to check *exodus* of cattle.

(11) Appropriate direction may be given under Article 355 of the Constitution to the Government of Kerala and North Eastern States to enforce prohibition of slaughter of cow and its progeny.

(12) Special protection may be given to Kerala to stop receiving cattle from neighbouring States for slaughter.

(13) The cruelty to cattle during their transport by rail/trucks etc. and extraction of milk by giving oxytocin should be prohibited.

(14) A circular should be issued by the Government for banning production of leather of slaughtered cattle. The export of goods made of such leather should be banned.

(15) Penal law like POTA should be amended to detain smugglers/ mafia of cow and its progeny who indulged in large scale *exodus* to Kerala and Bangladesh.

(16) Cross breeding from imported cattle like Jersey and their import should be prohibited.

(17) Indigenous breeds should be encouraged and Government should provide sizeable financial assistance for their development

and preservation throughout the country. A National Breeding Policy should be evolved and special plans should be developed and implemented.

(18) The report of the Organic Manure Task Force Committee 2001 should be accepted and its recommendations implemented *in toto*.

(19) The use of production of chemial fertilizers and chemical pesticides should be discouraged.

(20) The recommendation of the XI Sub-Group (on Meat Sector) set up by the Planning Commission for the Tenth Plan proposals should be rejected outright.

(21) Gaushalas, Gosadans and Pinjrapoles should be organized through voluntary organizations both by Central/State Governments. The Government should give financial assistance/ grants for construction and maintenance of such Gaushalas and their day-to-day expenses.

(22) The Information and Broadcasting Ministry should undertake programmes for awareness campaign of qualities and virtues of cow milk, cow products etc.

(23) The State should be asked to ensure production of fodder and feed in proportion to cattle population.

(24) Burning of standing crop residues in States like Punjab and Haryana that can be used as fodder should be made a penal offence.

(25) Fodder Corporation of India should be established with its branches in each State on the pattern of the Food Corporation of India.

(26) Special fodder production drive should be undertaken by the Agriculture Universities and Agriculture Ministries in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

(27) The Central/State Governments should subsidise the fodder sale on the pattern of subsidy given to people below poverty line from ration shops.

(28) A circular should be issued to the State Governments, Gram Panchayats and Municipal Committees to regulate and maintain the stray cattle.

(29) Every State must have a breed centre which should concentrate on the development of local breed alone.

(30) The Cattle Laws Enforcement Directorate should be constituted which shall be incharge of the movement of cows, bulls, etc. from place to place and State to State.

(31) Export and import of beef should be totally banned.

(32) Cow should be declared as National Animal and killing of cow and its progeny should be made constitutional offence.

(b) to (d) An Expert Group has been constituted to examine the recommendations of the National Commission on Cattle and to suggest measures to implement them. The Group has been asked to submit their report by 15th of March, 2003. After the receipt of the report of the Expert Group, the necessary follow up action will be taken on the recommendations of the National Commission on Cattle.

Availability of banned medicines

*78. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many drugs that are banned in several countries are freely available in India;

(b) if so, whether Government have made inquiries in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKH DEV SINGH DHINDSA): (a) to (c): Drugs withdrawn in some countries can continue to be used by other countries. The decision rests on various factors such as the disease pattern in a country, the varying reactions of certain ethnic groups in a given population to the drug and